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TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/024,167  
Applicants : Alfred E. Keller  
Filed : December 18, 2001  
For : Short Contact Time Catalytic Sulfur Recovery System for Removing H<sub>2</sub>S From A Waste Stream

Confirmation No. 5731

TC/A.U. : 1754  
Examiner : Timothy C. Vanoy

Customer No.: 35181  
Atty. Dkt. No.: 1856-09501  
Date: July 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF JULY 8, 2003**

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated July 8, 2003, in which the Examiner called for copies of certain literature references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement date-stamped July 23, 2002 and August 20, 2002.

In reply, copies of Watson et al., Gamson et al., PCT Search Report in PCT/US01/48795, PCT Search Report in PCT/US00/34692, and a Form PTO-1449 (listing the cited references) are attached hereto.

A supplemental Response to the Office Action addressing each remaining issue will be submitted within the permitted time period for reply.

Applicants believe that no fee is due as a result of filing this paper, as the enclosed references were previously submitted to the Office on July 23, 2002 and August 20, 2002. If, however, the Commissioner deems that a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 03-2769 of Conley Rose, P.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol G. Mintz  
PTO Reg. No. 38,561  
Conley Rose, P.C.  
P. O. Box 3267  
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AGENT FOR APPLICANT



<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/024,167
	Filing Date	December 18, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Alfred E. Keller
	Art Unit	1754
	Examiner Name	Timothy C. Vanoy
Total Number of Pages in This Submission *	Attorney Docket Number	1856-09501

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):  Form PTO-1449 (w/copies of 4 cited references)
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm Or Individual Name	Carol G. Mintz, Reg. No. 38,561
Signature	<i>Carol G. Mintz</i>
Date	July 23, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or Printed Name	Frances Hampton	Date	July 23, 2003
Signature	<i>Frances Hampton</i>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, p. o. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and selection option 2

CORRECTED 7/23/2003

Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Docket No.  
1856-09501  
(98/002)Serial No.  
10/024,167Applicant  
Alfred E. KELLER, et al.Filing Date  
12/18/01Group  
1754**REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,472,920	12/05/95	Dubois et al.	501	103	
	AB	5,232,467	08/03/93	Child et al.	48	127.3	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	BA							

**OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	CA	PCT SEARCH REPORT IN PCT/US00/34692 dated 31 JULY 2002 05 November 2001

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP '609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 (Modified)						Atty. Docket No. 1856-09501		Serial No. 10/024,167	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)						Applicant Alfred E. Keller			
						Filing Date December 18, 2001		Group 1754	
<b>REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>									
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
<div style="position: relative; width: 100%; height: 100%;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; text-align: right; color: black; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">           RECEIVED            JUL 30 2003            TC 1700         </div> </div>									
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>									
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation YES      NO		
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>									
	C1	PCT Search Report in PCT/US01/48795 dated 26 June 2002 (1 p.)							
	C2	PCT Search Report in PCT/US00/34692 dated 5 November 2001 (3 pp.)							
	C3	R.W. Watson et al., "The successful use of oxygen in Claus plants," HTI Quarterly: Winter 1995/96, pp. 95-101							
	C4	B.W. Gamson et al., "Sulfur from Hydrogen Sulfide," Chem. Eng. Prog., April 1953, Vol. 49, No. 4, pp. 203-215							
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>					
<b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP '609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.									